

**PILOT
SEASON**

Genius



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Afua Richardson



#1

myspace.com/pilotseason



\$3.99 US/CAN

Cover A





Genius™

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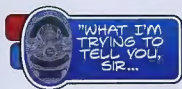
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For more on Pilot Season visit
www.myspace.com/pilotseason

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"...IS THAT WE'RE
SITTING ON A
POWDER KEG,
JUST WAITING
TO EXPLODE."



"BUT WHAT I
DO KNOW, FOR
A FACT..."



"S COMING." YOU COME IN HERE
ONCE A GODDAMN MONTH-- FOR
THE LAST SIX YEARS--AND TELL
ME ABOUT YOUR FUCKING
POWDER KEG. I GOT NO TIME
FOR THIS SHIT, GREY! WE ARE
DROWNING IN **REAL**
CRIMES.

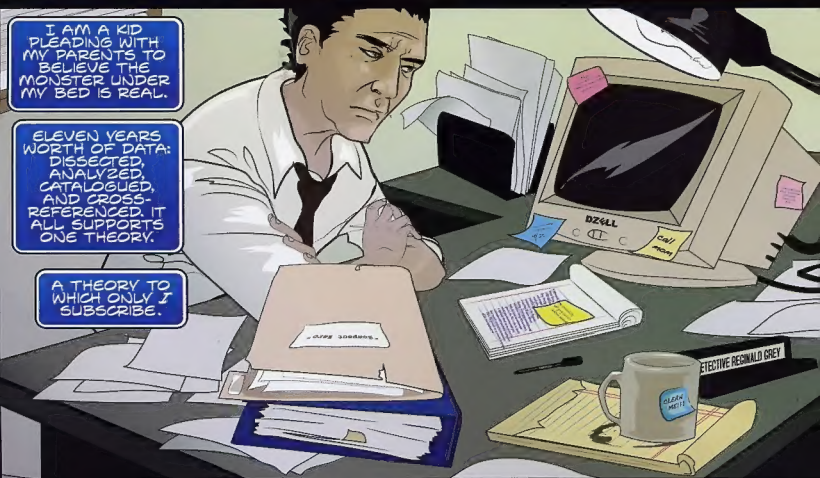
LOOK,
CAPTAIN. THIS
IS NO GOOSE
CHASE. THIS
IS REAL--

A **REAL**
WASTE OF FUCKIN'
TIME. YOU GOT A
PILE OF CASES ON
YOUR DESK WIDER
THAN MY WIFE'S
ASS.

I AM A KID
PLEADING WITH
MY PARENTS TO
BELIEVE THE
MONSTER UNDER
MY BED IS **REAL**.

ELEVEN YEARS
WORTH OF DATA:
DISSECTED,
ANALYZED,
CATALOGUED,
AND CROSS-
REFERENCED. IT
ALL SUPPORTS
ONE THEORY.

A THEORY TO
WHICH ONLY I
SUBSCRIBE.



"Suspect Zero"

COME
OUT, COME
OUT,
WHEREVER
YOU ARE...





Y'ALL
KNOW ME. YOU
KNOW WHO I AM. I
GREW UP ON THIS
STREET. MY PARENTS
DIED ON THIS STREET.
HALF THE PEOPLE
WE KNOW GOT
THEMSELVES POPPED
ON THIS FUCKIN'
STREET... BY OTHER
PEOPLE ON THIS
FUCKIN' STREET.
WHY?

THEY
WANT US
THIS WAY. WE A
CANCER TO THEM,
AND THEY HAPPY
TO SIT BACK AND
WATCH US EAT
OURSELVES
ALIVE.

FUCK
THAT.

I WANT
A CRIB WITHOUT
BARS ON THE
WINDOWS. I WANT
MY MAN TO DRIVE
HIS CAR WITHOUT
THE FIVE-O
BUSTING HIS ASS
FOR NOT BEING
WHITE. AND
THOSE ARE THE
GOOD COPS.

I WANT
A PLACE OF
MY OWN.
YOU WANT
A PLACE OF
YO' OWN.

LOTTA PUNKS
ROUND HERE RUN
THEIR MOUTHS.
DON'T TALK. I DO.
WHILES BACK I
ASKED YOU TO
TRUST ME. I TAKE
THAT SHIT REAL
SERIOUS.

OUR
TIME IS
NOW.

SO HERE'S
WHAT I'M DO.
DECLARE MARTIAL
LAW IN THIS
MOTHERFUCKER.
NO MORE CALLING
9-1-1. I'M YOUR
GODDAMN
9-1-1.

THIS PLACE
BELONGS TO
US. AND WE
GON' KEEP
IT.





WE GOT A
TEN-DOUBLE
ZERO!



OFFICERS
DOWN? WHAT
HAPPENED?



S-SNIPERS.
REAL PROS.
T-TOLD ME
TO...

DAMN IT,
DANVERS,
WHERE'S
HENDRICKS?
WHERE IS YOUR
PARTNER?

S-SHOT...
HE'S IN THE
CAR.

THE
CAR?! GET
AN E.M.T.
OUTSIDE--

HE
DON'T NEED
NO E.M.T.
T-TRUST
ME.

CAR, I KNOW DANVERS
IS COVERED IN HIS OWN
PISS, BUT HE'S TALKING
ABOUT GANGBANGERS
WHO GOT THE DROP ON
TWO BUBBLEGUMS
FILLED WITH
VETERANS.

WITH
SNIPERS.

FIVE
MINUTES.
IF THIS ISN'T
FOR REAL,
CONSIDER
YOUR ASS
BOUNCED.





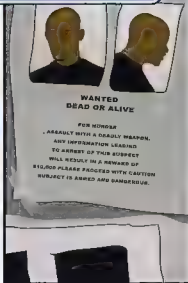
"RIGHT. OVER 35,000 REPORTED CASES OF GANG VIOLENCE OVER THE LAST DECADE.





"SEEMINGLY RANDOM AND CHAOTIC, YES, BUT EVEN IF THE UNIVERSE DOESN'T HAVE A DESIGN, IT DOES HAVE ORDER, CAPTAIN."

"CROSS REFERENCE EVERY CASE, EVERY VICTIM, EVERY PERP. TRIANGULATE LOCATIONS AND TERRITORIES, EXTRAPOLATE SUCCESSORS, CHAINS OF COMMAND, ALLIANCES, AND SO ON."



...AND?

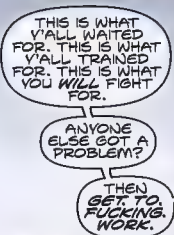
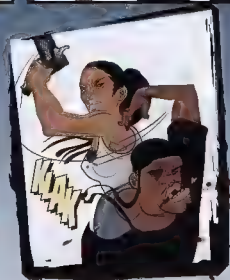
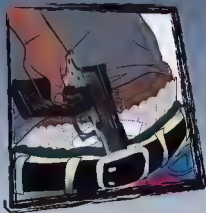
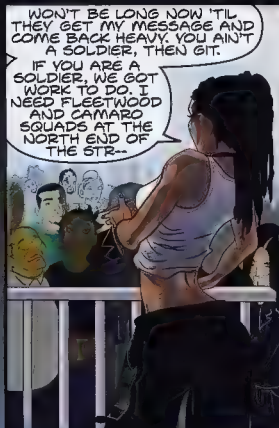
AND IT ALL LEADS TO ONE POSSIBLE OUTCOME.

WAR.

"SOMEONE, A CENTRAL FIGURE, IS ORGANIZING THEM, TRAINING THEM, FOCUSING THEM AGAINST A COMMON ENEMY. US."

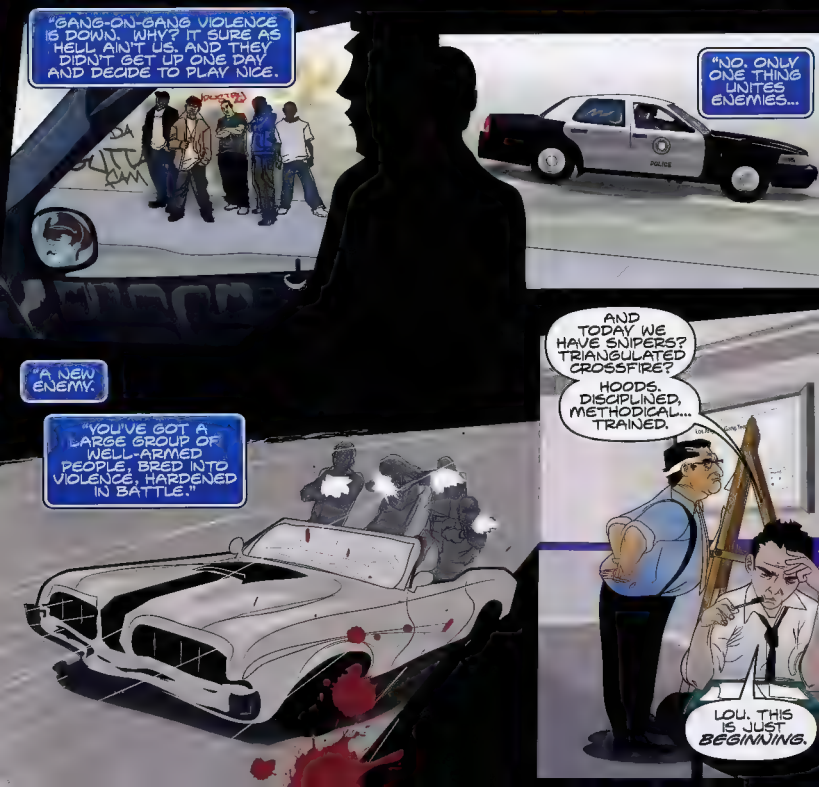
"I CALL HIM 'SUSPECT ZERO.'"

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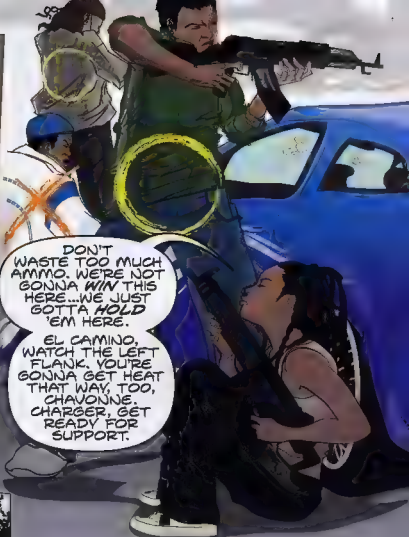
EVERYBODY
HOLD! DON'T
DO SHIT!

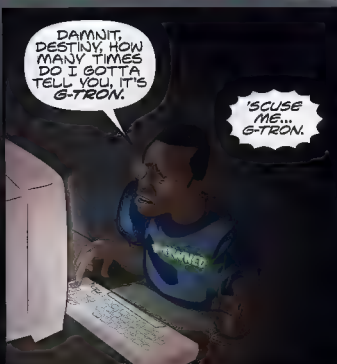
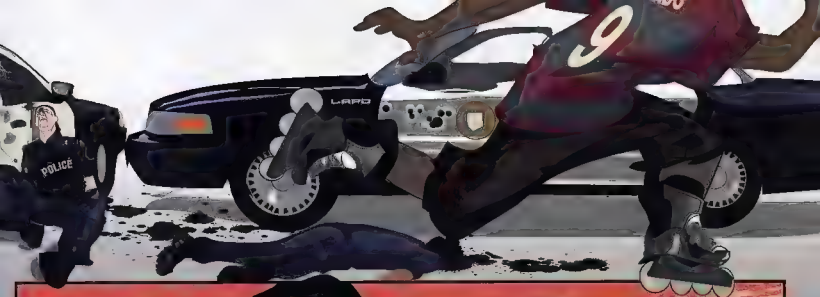
CUTLASS,
GET READY
TO MOVE.

TO
ALL ARMED
PERSONNEL, YOU
ARE ALL UNDER
ARREST! DROP
YOUR WEAPONS,
STEP OUT IN THE
OPEN AND HIT
THE FLOOR!

ABOUT
TO STICK
IT, DEE.









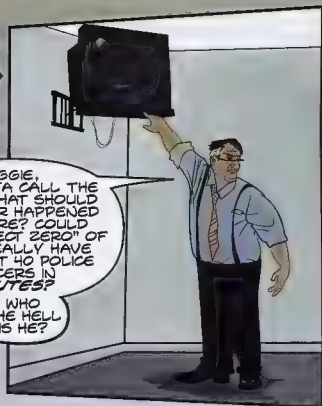
IT DIDN'T LAST LONG.
THE ONES WHO DIDN'T
FIGHT GAVE UP
PRETTY QUICKLY.

PRISONERS
OF WAR. OF
MY WAR.





THERE ARE BURNING POLICE CARS AND--OH, JESUS-- BODIES. LOTS OF BODIES. AMBER, I DON'T KNOW IF WE SHOULD BE BROADCASTING--

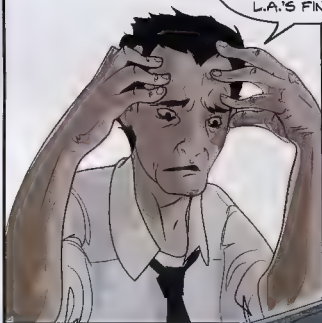


REGGIE, I'VE GOTTA CALL THE MAYOR. WHAT SHOULD I TELL HER HAPPENED OUT THERE? COULD THIS "SUSPECT ZERO" OF YOURS REALLY HAVE WIPED OUT 40 POLICE OFFICERS IN MINUTES?

WHO THE HELL IS HE?

WHOEVER HE IS, HE'S BEEN ORGANIZING SMALLER SYSTEMATIC, MULTI-TIERED ATTACKS JUST UNDER OUR RADAR FOR THE LAST 18 MONTHS. IT'S BEEN A CAMPAIGN.

NO OFFICIAL TRAINING. NO TACTICAL SCHOOLING. HE JUST PLAIN OUT-FLANKED, OUT-MANEUVURED, OUT-THOUGHT L.A.'S FINEST.



EVERY GENERATION HAS ONE, LOU. HANNIBAL. ALEXANDER. WASHINGTON. PATTON.

WE JUST MIGHT BE DEALING WITH THE GREATEST MILITARY MIND OF OUR TIME.

A GODDAMNED... GENIUS.





6
BOOKS
ENTER

2
BOOKS
LEAVE!!!

Read, vote

**PILOT
SEASON**

TAKE CONTROL

4.1 MILLION
took part last year! Be a
decision maker in 2008!
Polls open in August.

Visit

www.myspace.com/pilotseason
for details.



DIFFERENT BREED

The Top Cow

WORLD MOOS



•BROKEN TRINITY•

This Summer Just Got Hotter!

**COMING
SOON!**



Witchblade #119
Marz • Sejic



The Darkness #6
Hester • Broussard



Art of Marc Silvestri Hardcover
Marc Silvestri



Summer Vacation Special

The critically acclaimed hit created by **Seth Green** and **Hugh Sterbakov** is back! There's no rest for the weary as the kids' summer vacation takes a bizarre twist when someone from their past rises from the dead to wreak havoc on Freese College. An all-out, action-packed brawl filled with drama and laughs, drawn by newcomer **Sheldon Mitchell**.



The all-star First Born team of **Ron Marz** and **Stjepan Sejic** reunite for this summer's biggest event! The ground will shudder and the heavens shake when the Witchblade, The Darkness, and The Angelus are brought together and ripped asunder with the revelation of a new artifact. In the end, a new player will be introduced into the Top Cow Universe and at least one will perish! Go to www.topcow.com/brokentrinity for more information.

•NEXT ISSUE• Pilot Season 2008

Pilot Season 2008 concludes next month with the sci-fi political thriller **The Core** by **Jonathan Hickman** (Nightly News) and **Kenneth Rocafort** (Madame Mirage), and **Urban Myths**, the fantasy and detective noir mash-up by writer **Jay Faerber** (Dynamo 5) and artist **Jorge Molina** (Superman/Batman Annual)



SAN DIEGO
COMIC CON
INTERNATIONAL

•FROM THE OFFICE•

The next stops on Top Cow's 2008 convention tour are **Wizard World Chicago** in Rosemont, Illinois from June 26 to June 29 (www.wizardworld.com) and the granddaddy of them all, **Comic-Con International** in San Diego, California from July 24 to July 27 (www.comic-con.org). Be sure to stop by to meet some of your favorite Top Cow creators, purchase exclusive comics, and receive free stuff!

- Moo

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Want more info? check out:

www.topcow.com and www.topcowstore.com
for news and exclusive Top Cow merchandise!

EMERALD IN HER DESIRE VARIANT



RAGEER X

HOTTER THAN HELL!

